MINUTES

—OF THE—

Fifteenth Annual Session

—OF THE—

TROY ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

THE SILOAM BAPTIST CHURCH,

China Grove, Pike County, Alabama,

COMMENCING THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1898.

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TROY, ALA.:
JOHN POST, PRINTER,
1898.

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY.

OFFICERS:

T. L. HEAD, Sr., Moderator, - China Grove, Ala.
E. M. SHAKELFORD, Clerk, - Troy, Ala.
F. H. ALLRED, Treasurer, - Troy, Ala.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

1. Executive Committee—Dr. A. B. Campbell, Troy, Ala.
2. Home and State Mission—The Rev. J. L. Youngblood, Troy, Ala.
3. Foreign Missions—The Hon. Joel D. Murphree, Troy, Ala.
4. Sunday-schools—The Rev. L. H. Bowles, Troy, Ala.
5. Temperance—Jas. B. Cox, Linwood, Ala.
6. Education—Dr. A. B. Campbell, Troy, Ala.
7. The Orphanage—The Hon. W. H. Barnett, Ansley, Ala.
8. Indigent and Deceased Ministers—H. A. McLane, Brundidge, Ala.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Dr. A. B. Campbell,.....Troy, Ala.
Rev. J. L. Youngblood,.....Troy, "
" L. H. Bowles,.....Troy, "
" J. S. Yarbrough, ...Orion, "
" N. C. Underwood,.....Brundidge, "
" H. W. Griggs, ...Linwood, "

Next meeting, Troy, Ala., time to be fixed by Executive Committee.

MINUTES.

The Fifteenth Annual Session of the Troy Association met with Siloam church, at China Grove, Alabama, Aug. 11, 1898, and was called to order by Bro. E. M. Shackelford, the Clerk, the Moderator, Bro. Barnett, being absent on account of his wife's illness. The temporary organization was effected by electing Bro. T. L. Head, Sr., Clerk. An interesting and appropriate introductory sermon was then preached by Elder J. L. Youngblood, from text found in John, 12:26.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats, and Elders J. A. Howard, of the *Alabama Baptist*, Montgomery, W. L. Cahall of Pine Barren and Mobile Associations, accepted and became useful in the deliberations of the body. Afterwards Elder S. O. Y. Ray of Midway, came in and was welcomed.

Letters from the churches were then read, and, all except Olustee, were found to be duly represented as follows:

Bethlehem—H. A. Patterson, J. M. Patterson.

Hephzibah—F. H. Allred, T. S. Sanders.

Mt. Pleasant—J. B. Cox, J. O. Browder, L. E. Mallory.

Orion—T. L. McCullough, N. A. Adams, Cecil Yarbrough.

Salem—I. N. Andress.

Shiloh—R. B. Parks, J. J. Cotton.

Siloam—T. L. Head, Sr., J. F. Justice, J. B. Townsend.

Troy—L. H. Bowles, J. L. Youngblood, A. B Campbell, E. M. Shackelford, J. D. Murphree, J. S. Carroll, Abner Campbell, J. E. Moore. R. D. Locke, Casper Boyd.

The permanent organization was effected by electing Bros. T. L. Head, Sr., Moderator, E. M. Shackelford, Clerk, and F. H. Allred, Treasurer, after which the following committees for the session were appointed:

On Religious Services—J. B. Townsend, J. F. Justice, Lee Crow.

On Finance—J. D. Murphree, J. S. Carroll, J. C. Townsend.

On Documents and Requests— L. H. Bowles, J. B. Cox, T. L. McCullough.

On Nominations—I. N. Andress, H. A. Patterson, T. S. Sanders.

On call for correspondence, there was no response, and, after dispensing with the reading of the Rules of Order, the Moderator proceeded to fill vacancies in standing committees, as follows:

Home and State Missions—J. E. Moore, J. L. Youngblood, J. O. Browder.

Foreign Missions—R. D. Locke, Jr., Casper Boyd.

Sunday schools—J. S. Carroll.

Temperance—N. A. Adams.

Education—T. L. McCullough, Lee Mallory.

The Orphanage—I. N. Andress, J. M. Patterson.

Deceased Ministers—H. A. Patterson.

Indigent Ministers—J. E. Moore, Abner Campbell.

The Executive Committee, through Elder A. B. Campbell, chairman, made its annual report, which was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee beg leave to report that shortly after your last session we met and gave earnest consideration to all the matters referred to us by your body. Having no funds at our disposal either then or afterwards, we could not extend any assistance to Mt. Pleasant church. We appointed brother Joel D. Murphree to raise a colportage fund on a plan that seemed most likely to be successful, but on account of the extreme financial stringency throughout our territory the undertaking remains unaccomplished. We appointed brother L. H. Bowles Sunday school evangelist without pay, and are gratified to report that he has rendered valuable service at various points in that capacity; for which the churches and people owe him much gratitude.

We recommend that your Executive Committee for the coming year be instructed to do whatever they can for the promotion of the colportage and Sunday school work within our bounds and according to the provisions outlined in Article 10 of the constitution.

Respectfully submitted.

F. H. Allred.
J. D. Murphree. } Com.
A. B. Campbell.

On motion, the discussion of each subject was limited to 15 minutes and individual speeches to 5 minutes, except by special permission.

The Committee on Religious Services made report appointing Elder W. L. Cahall to conduct the night services and Elder A. B. Campbell that for tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

The general subject of Missions was set as a special order for the hour of 10 o'clock tomorrow.

Elder Bowles, from the Committee on Sunday schools, made the following report, which, after discussion by Bros. Murphree, Shackelford, Carroll, and Campbell, was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee take pleasure in reporting that the Sunday school cause has made marked progress since our last meeting, and to-day more people are studing God's word through the instrumentality of the Sunday school, than ever before in the history of the world.

The Christian world has come to a knowledge of the fact that the study of the Bible is a necessary factor in the promotion of the kingdom of the Master, and we thank God that the Baptist of the South are in the front rank of this glorious cause.

The statistics of our Southern Baptist Convention show the following figures:

Baptist churches in the South	18.922.
Membership	1.568,906.
Sunday schools	9.770.
Pupils	611.612.

By a comparison of these figures, we find that about 51 1-2 per cent. of the churches have Sunday schools, and that the total number of pupils are about 40 per cent. of the church membership; futhermore about 50 per cent. of this number are non-church members, which reduces the number of church members in the Sunday schools to about 20 per cent.

Statistics for Alabama make even a poorer showing than these, to-wit:

Baptist churches in Alabama	1.739.
Membership	124.751.
Sunday schools	744.
Pupils	39.821.

By these figures we find that about 43 per cent. of our churches have Sunday schools and that about 16 per cent. of our church members are in attendance upon them.

We have not compared the above figures with previous years, but are satisfied that they are very much in advance of any time in the past.

The Troy Association has 9 churches with 1.260 members and 7 Sunday schools with 929 pupils, which is about 37 per cent. of our church members.

Under the present system of Sunday school organization, no church member can assign any valid reason for not being connected with the Sunday school; provided the churches are making proper efforts in that direction.

Why then, it may well be asked, are so few of our church members taking any interest in this very important Christian work? It certainly cannot be accounted for on the grounds of indifference to God's word; nor that the study of the Bible in the homes of our people is meeting their wants in this respect.

Your committee would suggest that the trouble is primarily with the churches, as organized bodies, in their failure to co-operate in the work; it may be in some instances from a lack of leadership; it is doubtless occasionally on account of the inconvenient location of the building, and possibly sometimes from the indifference of the pastor and deacons, in the matter.

Your committee beg leave to offer the following recommendations:

1st. That our Executive committee be authorized to employ a Sunday school evangelist, whose duties shall be prescribed by them, if in their judgment it will be feasible.

2nd. That the churches in this association be urged to organize and maintain Sunday schools, twelve months in the year, and that they be requested to make their buildings comfortable, winter and summer, for this purpose.

3rd. That the literature of our Southern Baptist S. S. Board be commended for use in our schools.

4th. That one day in the year be appointed for special Sunday school services by our churches.

L. H. Bowles, Ch'n.
T. S. Sanders. } Com.
J. S. Carroll.

On motion, the Association adjourned till tomorrow at 8:30 a. m.

In the meantime, because of inclement weather, Elder Cahall did not fill the appointment for night service.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The Association was called to order at 8:35 by the Moderator and opened with devotional exercises conducted by Eider J. A. Howard.

Elder Bowles offered the following resolutions, which were referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

RESOLUTIONS ON LADIES' UNIONS.

Whereas, The ladies of our churches have become a strong factor in our charitable work, and a substantial aid in raising funds for church purposes, and

Whereas, Co-operation among christians is always commendable, and the best way of developing the interests fostered by our denomination,

Be it therefore resolved, 1st. That this Association recommend to the Ladies' Aid Societies and individual members of our churches, the organization of a Ladies' Union, for the purpose of bringing the lady membership of our churches into closer fellowship, the fostering of all charitable causes, and for rendering substantial aid to such individuals and churches as in their wisdom may be necessary.

2nd. That for the purpose of carrying this resolution into effect, we hereby suggest that Mrs. W. C. Black, of Troy, Mrs. Josie Pennington, of Orion, and Mrs. Dr. Foreman, of Brundidge, be suggested as a committee to take the matter in hand and call a meeting of delegates to be elected by the churches of this Association not to exceed three from any one church at such time and place as they may deem convenient.

3rd. That the said Union, if formed, shall hold its annual meeting with and separate from, and make its reports to this Association, the same to be made through the Clerk of the Association.

4th. That said Union shall adopt its own constitution and make its own by-laws for its government, and shall collect and dispose of such funds as may come into its hands as they deem best.

Bro. Murphree, Chairman of Committe on Temperance, made the following report and followed it with an excellent paper on the subject, after which the report was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committe on Temperance find but little change in the status of the whiskey traffic within the past year. No liquor is sold in the county except at Troy, where the same two saloons are plying their vocation as

in the past, with about the same results. We are glad to be able to report less liquor sold to whites—the bulk of the traffic being with negroes. On the petitions for the sale of whiskey in Troy beat this year we find 537 names, five-ninths of which are negroes and four-ninths whites. Glad to find fewer church members signed than formerly. Had none signed, no license would have been granted for the sale of liquors in Troy this year.

We submit the following for your consideration and action thereon:

Whereas, Intemperance of every character is hurtful, not only to those of intemperate indulgences, but to all within its influence, and

Whereas, Whiskey saloons and the evils resulting therefrom are of incalculable injury to church and state, and

Whereas, Drunkenness offends against the sanctity of the church, and is treason against the intellectual and moral nature given by God, and disqualifies from performing the duties of life, and exposes to the commission of every crime, therefore,

Be it resolved, That it is the imperative duty of the church as such, and of the people who desire the promotion of the best interest of our country, to avail themselves of all the means within their reach to drive from our land this great national evil.

Resolved 2nd, That the selling of whiskey and other intoxicants as a beverage, or the signing of petitions authorizing its sale, is no less offensive to the church than habitual drunkenness, and should receive the same condemnation.

JOEL D. MURPHREE, Ch'n.,
N. A. ADAMS,
T. L. HEAD, JR.,
} Com.

The report of the Committee on Education was read by Bro. Shackelford, and after discussion by Elders Howard and Cahall, was unanimously adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

BROTHER MODERATOR:—With a view of making a complete and definite report of the status of our educational interests in Alabama, your Committee on Education, through its chairman, addressed a request for a report of conditions to President Roof, of Howard College, and President Patrick, of the Judson Institute. At the time of the preparation of this report, we had received no response from the Judson authorities except a card from Bro. T. T. Daughdrill, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, saying Bro. Patrick would attend to the matter on his return. We learn, however, through Bro. Howard of the Alabama Baptist, that the Institute has closed one of the most successful sessions in its history. From Pres. Roof, of Howard College, we received a full and satisfactory report, which we take pleasure in presenting complete, as follows:

REPORT OF HOWARD COLLEGE, SESSION OF 1897–98.

It is confidently asserted by those who have long been in close touch with Howard College, that the last session was one of the most successful in the history of the institution. Though many students were kept away by the prevalence of small-pox in Birmingham last summer and fall, yet the health of the students was excellent throughout the year. The president and three of the professors lived in barracks, and carefully looked after the health, comfort and conduct of the students.

The matriculation for the year was..... 144.
Number graduated..... 21.

The personnel of the student-body was excellent.

The average scholarship of the graduating class as a whole was the highest ever made in the college.

FINANCES.

All current expenses for the year, including teachers' salaries, were paid in full.

In addition to this, the water supply was much improved; hot and cold shower and tub baths were put in for the students, $305 raised for the gymnasium, and $225 in cash turned over to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

The faculty has assumed all responsibility for the interest ($1,000) on the bonded debt for next year, thus relieving the denomination of that burden; and all that is asked of the brethren in return is that each shall use his influence to send students to our own college—a college which now ranks among the very best in the South.

IMPROVED COURSE OF STUDY.

The course in Modern Languages has been extended to two years, as has also the course in Mental and Moral Sciences. An additional year in Greek has been added for the benefit of ministerial students.

In addition to the regular A. B. and B. S. degrees, new courses of study have been arranged leading up to the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Literature, and Bachelor of Pedagogy. The Preparatory Department now covers two years, and a one year's Business Course has been established, which may be taken alone or in connection with other studies, as the student may elect.

The Literary Course is a shorter course for those who do not wish to study the Ancient Languages. The C. E. Course includes all field work with instruments, and prepares the student for active work in practical engineering. The Department of Pedagogy is for the preparation of teachers. Women, as well as men, will be admitted to this department.

THE OUTLOOK.

Every department in the college has now a specialist at its head. The price of board has been reduced from $120 per annum to $100. This reduction in expenses, together with the high class of work done by the faculty last year, insures a largely increased enrollment for next year. Many more students have already applied for admission, and the members of the faculty are leaving nothing undone to make the next session a success in every particular.

Among the most important of the new features is the "Lecture Corps" of 25 specialists, who will deliver courses of lectures during the year on Economics, Science, Business, Law, Medicine and Biblical Literature.

This report shows President Roof to be a school man, thoroughly informed upon Alabama's educational needs, and the best methods of supplying them. Increase of facilities and reduction of expenses do not often go hand in hand; but Pres. Roof seems to have accomplished this much-desired end, and the denomination is to be congratulated upon having his valuable services. Supplemental to the foregoing, we add the following bits of information gleaned from the Howard College catalogue of 1897–8 and that of the Judson Institute for '96–7:

1. General expenses per year—Howard College, $175; Judson Inst., $200.
2. Exp. for children of active Ministers, " $145; " $100.
3. " " Ministerial students, " $115; .....
4. " " Music..... " $20 to 50.
5. " " Art..... " $25
6. The Board of Ministerial Education, of which Dr. W. A Hobson of East Lake, Alabama, is President, will assist worthy young men from Baptist churches in Alabama in paying their expenses.

We learn from newspaper publications that Dr. Wm. H. Whitsitt, President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has tendered

his resignation as such, thus ending what promised to be a long and bitter contest in the denomination. We trust and believe all opposition to this useful and excellent institution will now cease and that the entire denomination will rally to its support.

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. SHACKELFORD, Ch'n.,
T. L. McCULLOUGH,
L. E. MALLORY.

Elder Campbell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

RESOLUTION ON MINISTERIAL FUND.

Whereas, Contributions for paying board of ministerial students at Howard College fall hundreds of dollars short of the expenditures of the committee for that purpose, we recommend that the churches that have not recently sent aid for this purpose shall do so at their earliest opportunity.

The following report on the Baptist Orphanage, read by Elder Youngblood, was adopted:

REPORT ON THE ORPHANAGE.

Your committee feel that we can do no better than to submit the following extracts from the Alabama Baptist:

FACTS ABOUT THE ORPHANAGE.

Its name is Louise Short Baptist Widow's and Orphan's Home of Alabama.

The first step taken toward its establishment was when Mrs. M. L. B. Woodson made known to the State Baptist Convention, in November, 1890, that she would give her real estate for the maintenance of a Baptist Widow's and Orphan's Home in Alabama.

The Home was temporarily located at Evergreen Jan. 16, 1893, the present Financial Secretary being asked to take the management of it, he being then pastor at Evergreen.

March 10, 1893, in a small rented house, the Home was opened to receive its first inmates. By November of that year we had received twenty-two children, and the trustees decided to locate the Home permanently.

After duly advertising for bids for a location, Evergreen was chosen and property purchased, consisting of eighty acres of land lying on Main street, thirty acres of which is farm, thirty in pasture and twenty in woods.

The buildings were a ten room brick house, and three tenant houses.

The purchase price was $5,000 which with interest on the deferred payments amounted to $5.400,33 which was promptly paid.

Important improvements have been added to the home by which we have another brick building with eleven rooms, and all the former house thoroughly renovated and much improved; adequate water works, and a complete system of sanitation. These improvements cost about $3.500, all of which has been paid except about $

We are behind on current expense account also about $

The management desire to dedicate this property Oct. 20th. Will our friends send money to pay these balances by Sept. 30th, so the Home can be offered to the Lord free of debt?

The boys are taught to do farm work. The girls do various kinds

of house work. All that are old enough attend the Southwest Alabama Agricultural school,where no tuition is charged,the matriculation and incidental fees amounting to $5.00 to $10 per year for each pupil.

All attend Sunday school and church. Twelve of them have been baptized. The current expenses amount to about $6 per month for each child.

Since the Home was started there have been gathered into it forty-one boys and forty-nine girls, and out of it have gone by apprenticeship two boys; returned to their people seven boys and seven girls; by adoption eleven boys and eleven girls; irregularly two boys; by death one boy; leaving in the home eighteen boys and thirty-one girls.

Dear brethren, we ought to feel proud of our Orphans' Home; we ought to thank the Lord for what has already been done, and pray him to continue to influence us to be liberal.

J. L. Youngblood, Ch'n.
I. N. Andress,
J. M. Patterson. } Com.

MEMORIAL PAGE.

The Committee on Deceased Ministers, Elder Youngblood, Chairman, made the following report, which, after feeling talks by Bros. Bowles, Murphree, and Youngblood, and the singing of that good old song, "Shall We Meet beyond the River," was unanimously adopted and ordered spread upon a special memorial page in the minutes.

ELDER A. E. PINCKARD.

Rev. A. E. Pinckard was born in Chambers Co., Ala., Jan. 26th, 1862, and died at China Grove, Pike Co., Ala., Nov. 29th, 1897. While yet in infancy, he was left to the care of his mother, his father, Capt. Pinckard, a brave confederate officer, having been killed in the War between the States. His mother's early training and Christian example had much to do in shaping the course of this good man. (Oh! how much that is good and noble we get from the training of our mothers.) He was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist church at Newton, Dale Co., Ala., by the pastor, T. H. Stout, in 1884. Teaching school in the county of Dale a few years, he became impressed to preach the gospel, and to more fully fit himself for his life work, he entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., then presided over by that good and great man Dr. Broadus. Taking a two years' course, he then located in N. C., where he engaged in teaching and preaching. Finally being called to, and accepting the charge of, the churches at Orion, Ramer, Pine Level, Mt. Pleasant, and China Grove, he located in Pike county, Ala., where his life work was finished. No man was ever more zealous, and few have been more successful, as a pastor. He possessed a wonderful knowledge of the Scriptures and a very appropriate way in quoting them while preaching. Sound in doctrine, clear and logical in presenting the truth, he was said to be one of the very best young preachers in his section of country. He had a noble, generous nature and was loved by all who knew him; so it may truly be said a good man has gone to his reward. Respectfully submitted.

J. L. Youngblood, Ch'n. }
H. A. Patterson. } Com.
J. O. Browder. }

DEACON J. H. PINCKARD.

Brother Pickard was born in Monroe county, Ga., February 3rd, 1822, and died in Pike county, Ala., February 16th, 1898. He joined the Baptist church in 1840, beginning in early life, and he continued to be a faithful servant as long as he lived. He was one of the main pillras of his church. He was a prosperous man in temporal affairs and no one was more liberal. The Lord seemed to bless him in all his labors. A good man has gone to his reward.

J. L. Youngblood, Com.

The Committee on Indigent Ministers, through brother Townsed, chairman, reported as follows, and the redort was adopted:

ROPORT ON INDIGENT MINISTERS.

Your Committee on Indigent Ministers are glad to report that we know of none within the bounds of our Association.

J. B. Townsend, Ch'n.
J. E. Moore.
J. M. Patterson.

The hour for the special order—the subject of Missions having arrived, after singing "Toiling On," the special order was suspended temporarily, and the Committee on Documents and Requests, through Elder Bowles, Chairman, reported that only two requests were found in the documents referred to the Committee. One was an appeal from Mt. Pleasant for financial assistance; but as Bros. Murphree and Carroll had generously contributed the entire amount ($25.00), it was not necessary for the Association to act on it. Upon the other item—the request of the Troy church for the next meeting of the Association—the body took immediate action accepting the invitation, after which Bro. Murphree offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, 1*st*. That in the future the churches composing the Troy Association shall embrace in their church letters the accessions by experience and by letters, dismissions and expulsions, the amount of monies received from all sources, naming them, and how and for what purposes the same were paid out, and to whom paid, up to one month before the time fixed for the holding of our Association.

Resolved, 2*nd*. That the value of church property shall not be reported, nor the amount promised their pastors, but only the actual amounts received and paid out during the year ending at the date named in the first resolution.

The time of holding next meeting, after discussion, was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act. The special order was again taken up, and the following reports, made by Bro. Moore, Chairman of the Committee on Home and State Missions, and Elder Campbell, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Missions, after discussion by Bros. Bowles, Carroll, Shackelford, Howard, Cahall, and Murphree, were adopted:

REPORT ON STATE AND HOME MISSIONS.

THE STATF BOARD.

Your Committee beg leave to report that they have had to prepare this paper since reaching the grounds, they have not a copy of the last report of the State Board of Missions, and are, therefore, unable to give particular information on this branch of our work. We will say, however, that at our last convention, the Board was in debt, and continues to be

in that condition. The cause of it is that our churches have failed to send the necessary amount of founds to carry on the work outlined by the convention. Let us hope that the deficit will be made up before the annual meeting next November.

Dr. Bledsoe, the faithful and efficient Corresponding Secretary, has tendered his resignation, to take effect at close of this convention year. He deserves the highest commendation of his brethren for his faithful fulfilment of the duties of the office during a period beset by peculiar difficulties.

THE HOME BOARD.

The report of the Home Board to the Southern Baptist Convention last May, shows 467 missionaries in its employ during the preceding twelve months, and 4,739 baptisms, these, with other additions, making 9,509 members added to the churches through their labors. The total cash expenditures during the year, (besides a large amount that was used in connection with its work, but did not pass through the hands of the treasurer) were $86,267.47, amount on hand $620.80, making total cash collection of $86,888.27. These figures give some idea of the extent of the work being accomplished through this agency.

An interesting feature of its operations at this time is the fact that its missionaries are accompanying our armies to Cuba and Poto Rico to preach the gospel to the inhabitants of those islands. Indeed the field is vast in every direction and seems ready for the sickle. We recommend and urge upon our churches to lend this cause their hearty support.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. MOORE, Ch'n.
J. L. YOUNGBLOOD.
J. O. BROWDER.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

October 2nd, 1792, in the residence of the widow Wallis, a godly Baptist of the town of Kettening, England, was organized the first Foreign Mission society of modern times. It was composed of thirteen members. These at once subscribed sixty-five dollars for the support of a missionary in a foreign field. This one missionary has now become thousands, laboring in nearly every land on earth; the thirteen contributors have become hundreds of thousands; the sixty-five dollars have become an annual contribution of millions, and these figures are rapidly increasing every year. So much for the information of those who imagine that the foreign mission cause has seen its day and is on the decline.

The Sacred Scriptures and other Christian writings have meantime been translated into many languages, thousands of idolaters have become followers of Christ, and the Christian denominations engaged in this work have outgrown all others in the various elements of prosperity and power. These facts, taken in connection with the promises of God's word in reference to missionary zeal are a sufficient answer to persons who pretend that the divine blessing does not rest on this cause.

Baptist missions show more conversions in proportion to the number of missionaries and the amount of money expended than the missions of any other denomination. This fact is no occasion for vain boasting, but for profound gratitude, and an encouragement to greater zeal, and a warning to beware lest the special favor hitherto enjoyed be withdrawn from us and a rebuke be sent in its stead.

At the Southern Baptist Convention last May our Foreign Mission Board reported itself out of debt, with a small balance in the treasury. This is cause for great thankfulness. But there is no cessation of expenditures, and can be none except by abandoning the work: and unless contributions continue to flow into the treasury, this branch of our service

to the Lord will quickly become again embarassed with debt. It rests wholly with the churches to permit or prevent so deplorable a condition of things.

Notwithstanding the very wonderful progress made within little more than a hundred years, it is still true that comparatively few of the entire membership of our churches contribute to the furtherance of foriegn missions, and that most of these show no forwardness in contributing but seem rather to perform it grudgingly. These facts bespeak a lack of strong conviction and real heartiness in behalf of the work. This lack can be overcome in no other way than by enlightenment in the brotherhood at large on the events of this cause in the sight of God as declared in his word and demonstated by the testimony of history. It is of prime importance, therefore, that we use the pulpit, the printed page and all other proper means to keep the stream of intelligence pouring steadily, year by year, into the minds of the members of the churches, and at the same time inculcate the gospel idea of serving the Lord systematically with our gitts for the promotion of his cause in all lands.

CASPER BOYD.
R. D. LOCKE.
A. B. CAMPBELL.

The hour of 11 A. M. having arrived, Elder Campbell occupied the pulpit, preaching an able sermon from text found in John 8:31,32. After preaching, the Association, according to custom, took the usual missionary collection, amounting to $7 26, which was turned over to the Treasurer with instructions to forward it to the State Mission Board.

The Association then adjourned till 1:30 P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Promptly at 1:30 P. M. the body was called to order, and the following report of the Finance Committe, made by Chairman Murphree, was adopted:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to make the following report:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT TROY, ALA.

Contributed by Church	$2.155.79	
" " Sunday School	234.88	
" " Ladies' Aid Society.	384.60	
" " Ladies' Exchange	75.00	$2,850.27
Paid out as follows:		
On Pastor's salary	$1398.35	
Sexton and for Lights	229.94	
For coal	22.00	
To the Poor	49.00	
Ministeral Education	56.00	
Missions	28.00	
On Pastorium Debt	870.00	
" Insurance on Church Building	182.00	
" State Sunday school Work	10.00	
To Orphans' Home	25.00	
For Minutes	10.00	
For Repairs on Church and Pastorium.	51.45	2832.24
Balance on hand		$18.03.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH.

Total amount contributed		$3.50
Paid out as follows:		
State Missions	$ 1.75	
Orphan's Home	1.00	
Minutes	.75	—$3.50

ORION CHURCH.

Total amount of contributions		$6.50
Paid out as follow:		
For Missions	$ 5.00	
" Minutes	1.50	—$6.50

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH.

Total amount contributed		$14.38
Paid out as follows:		
State Missions, Home, Foreign	$ 4.78	
Minutes	1.50	
Pastors' Salary	8.10	—$14.38

SILOAM CHURCH.

Total amount contributed		$111.25
Paid out as follows:		
Pastors' Salary	$100.00	
Missions	10.00	
Minutes	1.25	—$111.25

HEPHZIBAH CHURCH.

Total amount contributed		$104.00
Paid Pastors' Salary	$100.00	
Missions	2.50	
Minutes	1.50	—$104.00

SALEM CHURCH.

Total amount contributed		$536.00
Paid out as follows:		
Pastors' Salary	$500.00	
Orphans' Home	33.00	
Minutes	3.00	—$536.00

SHILOH CHURCH—not represented.

OLUSTEE CHURCH—not representrd.

RECAPITULATION.

Paid for	Missions	$ 48.63
" "	Orphans' Home	59.00
" "	Ministeral Education	56.50
" "	Pastors' Salary	2106.45
" "	The Poor	49.00
" "	On Church Property	921.45
" "	State Sunday school Work	10.00
" "	Insurance on Church Property	182.00
" "	Sexton and for Fuel and Lights	151.94
" "	Minutes	19.50
		$3604.47

JOEL D. MURPHREE, Ch'n.
JOHN C. TOWNSEND.
J. S. CARROLL. } COM.

The following report from the Committe on Nominations was made by Chairman Sanders and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committe on Nominations ask leave to report as follows:
INTRODUCTORY SERMON—Rev. N. C. Underwood.
MISSIONARY SERMON—Rev. L. H. Bowles.
DELEGATES TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION—Dr. A. B. Campbell, Rev. J. S. Yarbrough.
DELEGATES TO ALABAMA BAPTIST CONVENTION—Elders N. C. Underwood, J. S. Yarbrough. Brethren J. D. Murphree, W. H. Barnett, I. N. Andress, T. L. Head, J. B. Cox, F. H. Allred, Cecil Yarbrough.

T. S. SANDERS.
I. N. ANDRESS. } Com.
H. H. PATTERSON.

The report of Treasurer Allred was then made and adopted, as follows:

TREASURER REPORT.

TROY CHURCH.		
For Missions	$28.00	
" Minutes	10.00	
ORION CHURCH.		
Minutes	1.50	
Missions	5.00	
MT. PLEASENT.		
Minutes	1.50	
Missions	4.38	
HEPHZIBAH.		
Minutes	1.50	
Missions	2.50	
BETHLEHEM.		
Minutes	.75	
Missions	2.75	
SALEM.		
Minutes	3.00	
Missions	33.00	
SILOAM.		
Minutes	1.25	
Missions	10.00	
Day's Collections	$ 7.26	7.26
Total for Missions		86.03
" " Minutes		19.50
Total		$112.79

F. H. ALLRED, Treasurer.

N. B.—Nothing belongs in this report except money actually handled by the Treasurer, which in this case would be only that for minutes and the special collection after the annual missionary sermon—Clerk.

The Association elected the following Executive Committee for the ensuing year: A. B. Campbell, J. D. Murphree, I. N. Andress, T. L. McCullough, and J. B. Cox.

The following resolutions, offered by Elder Youngblood, were unanimously adopted:

Resold, That the hearty thanks of the visiting members of the Association are due and are hereby extended to the members of Siloam church and the neighborhood generally for bounteous hopitality and thoughtful courtesies extended during their stay in the beautiful village of China Grove.

After suitable remarks upon the life and works of our deceased Bro J. H. Pinckard, of Bethlehem Church, Elder Youngblood was instructed to prepare appropriate resolutions on the subject for publication in the minutes.

The following standing committees for next year were appointed:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. Home and State Missions—Rev. J. L. Youngblood, T. S. Sanders, J. S. Carroll.
2. Foreign Missions—Hon. Joel D. Murphree, N. A. Adam, R. B. Parks.
3. Sunday schools—Rev. L. H. Bowles, E. A. McPerson. W. J. Dennis.
4. Temperance—J. B. Cox, T. L. McCollough, I. N. Andrews.
5. Education—Rev. A. B. Campbell, T. J. Threadgill, J. B. Townsend.
6. Orphanage—Bros. W. H. Barnett, J. F. Justice, L. Mallory.

7 and 8. Indigent and Deceased Ministers—H. A. McLana, F. H. Allred, J. M. Patterson.

Elder S. O. Y. Ray, of Midway, having entered the meeting, was requested by Bro. Shackelford to supplement his report on Education with a few minutes' talk on the Judson Institute, and Bro. Ray gladly complied.

The Clerk was instructed to reserve $5.00 from the Minute Fund for his services and apply the remainder to publishing and distributing the minutes as heretofore; and he was authorized to secure, if possible, enough advertisements to pay for publishing along with the Minutes the Articles of Faith, Constitution, and Rules of Order.

After approving the Minutes, the Association adjourned to meet with the Troy Church at time to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

T. L. Head, Sr., Moderator.

E. M. Shackelford, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

CHURCHES.	MEMBERSHIP.							FINANCES.							
	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Present Membership	Paid for Missions	Education	The Orphanage	Pastor's Salary	Church Expenses	Minutes	Cash on hand	Total for each Church.
BETHLEHEM	....	..	1	....	3	1	31	$ 1 75	.....	$ 10 0	.....	.....	$ 75	.....	$ 3 50
HEPHZIBAH	....	3	....	....	7	3	1	83	2 50	.....	.....	$ 100 00	.....	1 50	.....	24 00
MT. PLEASANT	....	....	....	....	3	....	....	82	4 78	.....	.....	8 10	.....	1 50	.....	14 38
OLSTEE	....	4	....	....	1	....	1	42	4 29	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	$ 4 73	9 99
ORION	....	2	....	....	1	....	1	52	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....	6 50
SALEM	1	14	..	10	....	3	177	.....	.....	33 00	500 00	.....	3 00	.....	536 00
SHILOH	5	2	....	2	1	1	141	10 25	.....	.....	150 00	$ 81 58	2 50	.....	244 33
SILOAM	....	1	....	2	....	1	48	10 00	.....	.....	100 00	.....	1 25	.....	111 25
TROY	1	13	....	21	....	2	397	28 00	$56 50	25 00	1398 35	1314 39	10 00	1803	2850 27
GRAND TOTALS	10	36	1	47	7	11	1050	$66 54	$56 50	$59 00	$2256 25	$1395 97	$23 00	$22 76	$3880 22

The Orion church reported $95.00 for Pastor's Salary after the Association adjourned.
N. B. Blanks in this table are due to failure of church letters to furnish necessary information.--Clerk.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CHURCH CLERKS.	S. S. SUPERINTENDENTS.
Bethlehem	R. C. Deal, Ozark	J. H. Pinckard, Brundidge	H. A. Patterson, Brundidge
Hephzibah	A. B. Metcalf, Brantley	E. A. McPherson, Troy	Dock Griffin, Troy
Mt. Pleasant	R. H. Schramm, Midway	J. B. Cox, Linwood	J. B. Cox, Linwood
Olustee	J. M. Loflir., Henderson	W. J. Dennis, Ansley	W. H. Barnett, Ansley
Orion	J. S. Yarbrough, Orion	W. G. Chancey, Orion	W. J. Chancey, Orion
Salem	N. C. Underwood, Brundidge	H. C. Pierson, Brundidge	T. J. Threadgill, Brundidge
Shiloh	J. W. Dickinson, Ozark	J. R. Turner, Barr's Mill	M. A. Wood, Barr's Mill
Siloam	J. W. Dickinson, Ozark	T. L. Head, Jr., China Grove	T. L. Head, Sr., China Grove
Troy	A. B. Campbell, Troy	Joel. D. Murphree, Troy	J. S. Carroll, Troy

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Opening Services.
2. Read Church Letters.
3. Introductory Sermon.
4. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
5. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Receive applications from churches for membership.
8. Appoint committees to report during session:
    1. On Religious Exercises.
    2. On Finance.
    3. On Documents and Requests.
    4. On Nominations.
9. Call for Correspondence.
10. Read Rules of Order.
11. Report of Standing Committees in their regular order.
12. Report of Special Committees.
13. Return Correspondence.
14. Election of Executive Committee.
15. Appoint Committees to report next meeting:
    1. On State and Home Missions.
    2. On Foreign Missions.
    3. On Sunday Schools.
    4. On Temperance.
    5. On Education.
    6. On Colportage.
    7. On Baptist Orphanage.
    8. On Deceased Ministers.
    9. On Indigent Ministers.
16. Treasurer's Report.
17. Miscellaneous Business.
18. Verify List of Messengers.
19. Arrange for Printing Minutes.
20. Correct Minutes and Adjourn.

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President.